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OSHA LIANG I.L.P. TWO HOUSTON CENTER 909 FANNIN, SUITE 3500 HOUSTON, TX 77010			EXAMINER NGUYEN, ANGELA	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/519,236

Applicant(s)

PERROT, PHILIPPE

Examiner

ANGELA NGUYEN

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2442

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/24/2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/02)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments and amendments, filed 6/29/2009, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by Cameron *et al.* (U.S. 2005/0028206), hereinafter Cameron, have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

Regarding the argument of the Specification objection that "Applicant notes that the Examiner should not object to words/phrases validly used in other forms of English, such as British English" (8/24/2009 Remarks, page 7, lines 5-6), the Examiner respectfully disagrees. As acknowledged by the Applicant in the 8/24/2009 Remarks (page 7, third paragraph, lines 1-2) and as discussed in the previous 5/29/2009 Office Action (page 2, second paragraph, lines 1-2), Examiner would like to note that the word "localization" was objected to for the *spelling* inconsistency between the specification (e.g., localisation) and the claims (e.g., localization) and was not objected for words/phrases validity used in any forms of English, including British English and American English. Despite this, Applicant's amendments (specification, [0010]) have been fully considered and are persuasive, and accordingly, the objection has been withdrawn in light of the amendments thereto.

Regarding the argument of claims 1, 3, and 8-10 that Cameron fails to disclose both these localizations as defined in the independent claims, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. As to the claim language, Cameron teaches that the multicasting the stream information at the offer localization to be the multicasting IPG related data object (e.g.,

stream information) from the multicast address and port of the server (e.g., offer localization) where the network device uses to establish network connection to join the multicast group and access the file system (Cameron, [0066]) and that the stream information linking a multi-service transport stream and stream localization to be the IPG related data object (e.g., stream information) linking the channel lineup (e.g., multi-service transport stream) and IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) (Cameron, [0071]).

Regarding the argument of independent claims 1, 9, and 10 and dependent claim 6 that Cameron fails to disclose the required predetermined offer localization, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Cameron teaches the predetermined offer localization to be the multicast address and port of the server (e.g., predetermined offer localization) where the network device uses to establish network connection to join the multicast group and access the file system (Cameron, [0066]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cameron *et al.* (U.S. 2005/0028206), hereinafter Cameron.

With respect to claim 1, Cameron teaches a method for distributing discovery information in an IP multicast television network, comprising:

multicasting offer information linking a service provider offer description ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7 (e.g., service provider offer description)).) and a service provider offer localization within the IP multicast television network ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., offer localization) as parameters in a BOOTP response.),

wherein the offer information is multicast at a predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber) as parameters in a BOOTP response.),

multicasting stream information at the service provider offer localization, the stream information linking a multi-service transport stream and a stream localization within the IP multicast network ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., multi-service transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby

retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

wherein the multi-service transport stream is multicast at the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., multi-service transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

wherein each of the offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber) as parameters in a BOOTP response.) and the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.) comprises an IP address and a port configured to receive data transmitted over the IP multicast television network.

With respect to claim 2, Cameron teaches the method according to claim 1, in which the offer and stream information are respectively cyclically multicast ([0050], The

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DTVM system transfers data from the text file into the service provider's database and then multicasts IPG data from the service provider's database across the network to the user on the PC display or television.).

With respect to claim 3, A method for broadcasting over an IP multicast network at least one offer of multimedia services received in a form of a bundle of transport streams, comprising:

attributing for each offer ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7).) a determined service provider offer localization within the IP multicast network,

creating a file of offer information describing for each offer a relation to its attributed service provider offer localization ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7 (e.g., file of offer information)).),

extracting, for each offer, transport stream information from the bundle, the transport stream information comprising a transport stream identification for each transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel (e.g., a transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g.,

transport stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home; figure 7, item 126, channel lineup (e.g., a transport stream identification)),

attributing for each transport stream identification a determined stream localization within the IP multicast network ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home; figure 7, item 126, channel lineup (e.g., a transport stream identification)),

wherein each transport streams in the bundle of transport streams is multicast at the determined stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel (e.g., a transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., transport stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home; figure 7, item 126, channel lineup (e.g., a transport stream identification)),

wherein both the offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber) as

parameters in a BOOTP response.) and the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.) and the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel (e.g., a transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., transport stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home; figure 7, item 126, channel lineup (e.g., a transport stream identification)) comprises an IP address and a port configured to receive data transmitted over the IP multicast network, and

creating for each offer a file of stream information describing for each transport stream a relation to its attributed stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., a file of stream information) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.).

With respect to claim 4, Cameron teaches the method for broadcasting according to claim 3, further comprising

adding, for each offer, a service provider offer description in the file of offer information ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7 (e.g., a service provider offer description in the file of offer information)).

With respect to claim 5, Cameron teaches the method for broadcasting according to claim 3, wherein the extraction of transport stream information from the bundle comprises:

for each transport stream, extracting an original network Id for a network previously used to deliver the transport stream ([0064] ,The broadcast delivery system may also provide to the service provider an option of assigning URL's (e.g., an original network Id) to channel numbers. A URL is an address used to enable an Internet browser program to find a particular Internet resource, for example, `http://www.imagictv.com`.), and

inserting the original network Id in relation to the transport stream in the file of stream information ([0064], The broadcast delivery system may also provide to the service provider an option of assigning URL's(e.g., an original network Id) to channel numbers. A URL is an address used to enable an Internet

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browser program to find a particular Internet resource, for example, ``http://www.imagictv.com``).

With respect to claim 6, Cameron teaches the method for broadcasting according to claim 3, further comprising:

receiving for each transport stream, a corresponding stream of packetized data ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel (e.g., transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object and ``tunes`` into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

inserting the stream of packetized data into IP packets ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and ``tunes`` into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

multicasting the IP packets at the stream localization previously attributed to the transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and ``tunes`` into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

multicasting the file of offer information at a predetermined offer localization ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7 (e.g., file of offer information))), and

multicasting for each offer, the corresponding stream information file at the service provider offer localization attributed to the offer ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., offer localization) as parameters in a BOOTP response.).

With respect to claim 7, Cameron teaches the method according to claim 6, in which the files of offer and stream information are respectively cyclically multicast ([0050], The DTVM system transfers data from the text file into the service provider's database and then multicasts IPG data from the service provider's database across the network to the user on the PC display or television.).

With respect to claim 8, Cameron teaches a method for receiving, in a set top box receiver compliant to receive a bundle of transport streams and connected to an IP multicast network, a transport stream from a bundle, comprising:

obtaining multicast stream information ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., multicast stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast

address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.) from a service provider offer localization,

processing the stream information to determine a stream localization previously attributed to the transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

wherein each of the offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber) as parameters in a BOOTP response.) and the stream localization comprises an IP address and port configured to receive data transmitted over the IP multicast network ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

obtaining multicast IP packets associated with the transport stream from the determined stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., determined stream localization) of the selected channel from the IPG

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Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home (e.g., obtaining multicast IP packets associated with the transport stream).), and

extracting packetized data from the obtained IP packets, thereby obtaining the transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel (e.g., transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.).

With respect to claim 9, Cameron teaches a method for receiving in a set top box receiver compliant to receive a bundle of transport streams and connected to an IP multicast network, a transport stream from an offer among one or many offers in the form of bundles, comprising:

obtaining multicast offer information ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., multicast offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7).) from a predetermined offer localization,

processing the offer information ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7).) to obtain a determined service provider offer localization previously attributed to the offer ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., determined service provider offer localization) as parameters in a BOOTP response.),

obtaining multicast stream information ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., multicast stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.) from the determined service provider offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., determined service provider offer localization) as parameters in a BOOTP response.),

processing the stream information to determine a stream localization previously attributed to the transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal

from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

wherein each of the offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber) as parameters in a BOOTP response.) and the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.) comprises an IP address and a port configured to receive data transmitted over the IP multicast network,

obtaining multicast IP packets associated with the transport stream from the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home (e.g., obtaining multicast IP packets associated with the transport stream).), and

extracting packetized data from the obtained IP packets, thereby obtaining the transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel (e.g., transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the

signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.).

With respect to claim 10, Cameron teaches a method for receiving, in a set top box receiver compliant to receive a bundle of transport streams and connected to an IP multicast network, a transport stream from an offer among one or many offers in form of bundles, comprising:

obtaining multicast offer information ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., multicast offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7).) from a predetermined offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization) as parameters in a BOOTP response.),

processing the offer information to obtain a list of items ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer information) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7 (e.g., a list of items).),

each item relating a service provider offer localization and an offer ([0050], In addition, as indicated in FIGS. 6 and 7, another clicking configuration

may display a brief information banner 121 with relevant data (e.g., offer) concerning program content and timing for a highlighted selection (i.e., "Travel with Beth" in FIG. 6 and "Debbie Travis' Painted House" in FIG. 7),

,
processing the stream information to obtain a transport stream list of transport streams and respectively related stream localizations ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., transport streams) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., transport stream list) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

wherein each of the offer localization ([0066], The DHCP server is configured to return the multicast address and port (e.g., predetermined offer localization known to a set top box associated with a subscriber) as parameters in a BOOTP response.) and the stream localization ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.) comprises an IP address and a port configured to receive data transmitted over the IP multicast network, and
storing the transport stream list in the set top box ([0050], The subscriber accesses the IPG through components in the STB 22 or PC 30.).

With respect to claim 11, Cameron teaches the method for receiving according to claim 10, further comprising:

requesting a determined transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port (e.g., stream localization) of the selected channel (e.g., multi-service transport stream) from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., stream information) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

finding a stream localization corresponding to

the determined transport stream

in the transport stream list ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object (e.g., transport stream list) and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

obtaining multicast IP packets from the stream localization, and extracting packetized data from the obtained IP packets, thereby obtaining the determined transport stream ([0071], it gets the IP multicast address and port of the selected channel from the IPG Related Data object and 'tunes' into the channel by joining the multicast address, thereby retrieving the signal from the

transport network rather than, as in conventional tuning systems, tuning into one of several signals broadcast into the home.),

wherein the determined transport stream combines offers for multimedia services from a plurality of service providers, each of which broadcast using a different distribution system ([0026], At the head-end 24 of the system a video source 12 retrieves multimedial television /Internet signals for broadcast from various sources such as satellites in the form of MPEG-compliant, Multi-Program Transport Streams (MPTS) and these signals are delivered to (analog-to-digital) video encoders 14 or (digital-to-digital) transcoders 130 where they are converted to one or more IP Multicast Single-Program Transport Streams (SPTS); figure 2, see server complex 40 and broadcast network 26)).

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANGELA NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 270-5660. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays, 8 AM - 4:30 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A.N./
ANGELA NGUYEN
Examiner, Art Unit 2442
September 25, 2009

/Andrew Caldwell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit
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